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Publication
EP 0882247 B1 20010411 (EN)

Application
EP 97905236 A 19970221

Priority

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Abstract (en)
[origin: US6144489A] PCT No. PCT/GB97/00490 Sec. 371 Date Aug. 21, 1998 Sec. 102(e) Date Aug. 21, 1998 PCT Filed Feb. 21, 1997 PCT Pub. No. WO97/31282 PCT Pub. Date Aug. 28, 1997A confocal microscope comprises a light source, a focusing arrangement, a detector and an encoded mask (17). The light source illuminates the mast (17) and the encoded light is then focused on a specimen. Light from the specimen is then decoded, by either the same or a separate complementary mask, before being detected, for example by a camera. The mask (17) is encoded with a pattern which generates a combined confocal and non-confocal image and the confocal image is subsequently extracted from the combined image. This means that confocal images of different regions of the specimen can be produced simultaneously, which in turn enables real-time confocal imaging of the specimen. In addition, as the microscope is no longer restricted to delta correlated images, an improvement in the light budget can also be achieved.

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Cited by
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